

AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

FOR POULTRY RAISERS.

A Device for Feeding Cracked Corn and Wheat to Chickens.

A self-feeder, for feeding cracked corn and wheat to young chicks, is given in this issue, being the design of Mr. A. P. Luce, New York. It can be made of half-inch boards. Fig. 1 shows the feeder ready for use. It is the hopper, two feet long, five inches deep, four inches wide at the top and one-fourth of an inch wide at the bottom. It holds from two to three quarts of feed. It may be wider at the bottom, how-

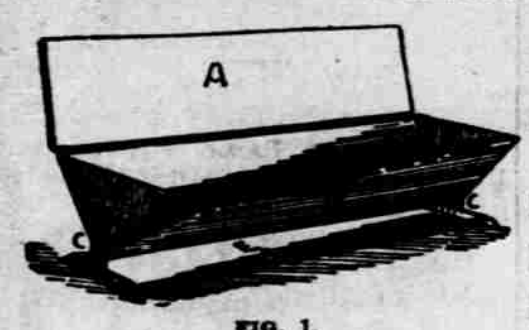


FIG. 1.

ever, and an opening of one-quarter of an inch wide in the bottom, so as to allow the feed to fall through. D D are the ends of the hopper, and C C are two pieces, each five inches long and two inches wide, which are nailed to the sides of the hopper, one on each side, and one-quarter inch inside the hopper up half an inch from the bottom of the trough, to allow the feed to run down, as shown in Fig. 1. E is the trough, where the chicks eat. It is twenty-five inches long and two and one-half inches wide, inside measure, and one and one-quarter inches deep. The trough is beveled on the inside

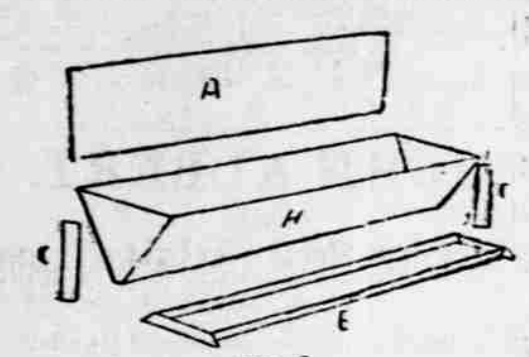


FIG. 2.

and outside of the hopper at the bottom, to allow the chicks to feed. A is the cover of the hopper. By this arrangement the feed can be kept where the chicks can help themselves at any time.—Farm and Fireside.

USE SMALL TILE.

A Leaf from the Experience of a New York State Farmer.

I would not put down horsehoe tile if it was given me. If one has watched the sand bar form in a little creek he can judge just how they work in horsehoe tile. If round tile is used the water is confined to a straight and narrow way at the bottom of the tile and any sediment getting in rolls along to the end. Every high water slashes it out unless it is prevented by the foolish practice of some getting in, in addition to the tile, a mass of stones. Then the water instead of being forced through the tile runs down on the outside as well as the tile is in danger. Another danger is in using too large tile. The smaller the tile the narrower is the stream. Too large tile works on the same principle as horsehoe tile. They had better be too small than too large. If the water gets through in ordinary times there is no danger that the rest will follow.

Instead of laying down boards where the bottom is solid, I use cheap cut shingles and split up over three inches wide. Lay them butt to butt and lay the points so that one shingle will lay one tile and break joints. When a tile is laid put a stake of stone or some lumps of earth by the joint on both sides to keep it in place. If the earth is packed around it so that earth falling from the top of the ditch will not disturb it. In filling the ditch I use one horse, setting the elevators on the plow till I get two furrows. Let the horse walk back in the ditch to tread it, letting the plow drag along on the landside. You cannot with safety run a stone ditch into tile, but there is no danger in running the tile into a stone ditch if there is plenty of fall.—Thos. R. Wheeler, in Farm and Home.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

The experience of 1892 emphasizes the necessity for spraying fruit trees, berries and even vegetables. Spraying is as imperative as good manure and good cultivation.—Farm Journal.

When the strawberry is treated strictly as a biennial plant the very best results are secured. It may be a little more trouble, but in growing this fruit the most intensive methods should be used.—Farm Journal.

SWEET cream butter is becoming very popular in certain quarters and commands fancy prices. As a general rule, however, butter from ripened cream finds most favor among those who buy the gilt-edged article.—American Farmer.

The best western corn weighs more per bushel in the ear than does the eastern plant. The Dent corns have deep kernels. They are not so solid as flint, and the shelled grain does not weigh so heavily, but it is less liable for that reason to injure stock.

At this season many farmers neglect salting cows, thinking they need salt less than when at pasture. There is not a week when cattle will not eat some salt if they can get it, and if they have a supply before them all the time they will be less likely to take too much.

Born very young and very old animals thrive better if their food is made easy of digestion. Cut clover cooked and mixed with grain meal is more digestible than the grain alone. A small quantity of the clover is enough to prevent grain meal from clogging and heating in the stomach.

One of the first spring crops to yield a return is asparagus. Aim to get large stalks by giving plenty of room and planting in deep, well-manured soil. Plant deep. Why? The whole ground can be cultivated right over the roots without injuring them. The plants endure drought better. The beds last longer.

In the state of Illinois the money lost by bad crops, farmers alone is estimated at \$10,000,000 per annum. This is not the whole tax, since the people in town bear their full share in less of trade and increased cost of living. At this rate the total loss of the United States would approximate \$900,000,000 per annum.

ABOUT WHEAT CULTURE.

A Crop That Leaves Little Except Scenery and Depleted Soil.

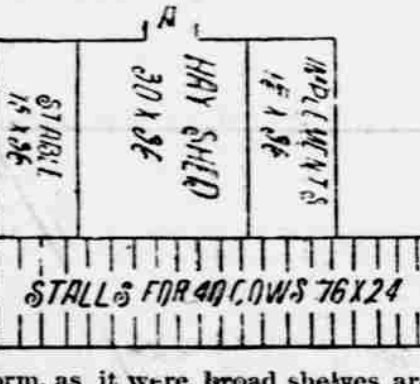
Why so many farmers continue to raise wheat year after year when its market value is less than its cost, I can only explain on the theory that they do not know its cost, do not take the trouble to think about it, or that they keep on sowing with something of the gambler's trust in the "turn of luck," a hope that favoring conditions will next season enable them to reap a much larger yield than they have any reason to expect, or that great failure in some part of the world will so advance prices that even their scanty product may afford some profit. The government report places the average yield of wheat of the United States for 1892 at 13 bushels per acre; the average by states is given at from 6 1/2 to 23 1/2 bushels. Nearly one hundred Kansas farmers report yields of considerable areas, ranging all the way from 30 bushels to as high as 65 per acre, quite a large proportion running above 40 bushels. Now, at 20 to 40 bushels per acre there may be a fair return to the farmer on cheap land at even 60 cents per bushel; but at 13 bushels and below, what can there be, even at 80 cents a bushel? At 80 cents 13 bushels bring only \$10.40. How well will that pay for plowing, sowing, harrowing and rolling, the value of the cost of seed, drilling, harvesting, thrashing, and, perhaps, hauling several miles to market? Added to this, there is interest on rent of land—not less than \$3 per acre. Then there is another factor of cost that I don't believe one farmer in ten ever stops, seriously, to think of—namely, the value of the plant-food sold with the wheat. This plant-food is really the farmer's capital—his investment. Remove the plant-food, the life, the fertility, from the soil and what is the remainder worth? Nothing but to wear the life out of the farmer without return for his toil. When that is gone he might as well abandon his farm, unless he has scenery to sell.

A bushel of wheat takes from the soil about 1.25 lb. of nitrogen, .32 lb. of potash and .47 lb. of phosphoric acid. These at market prices for chemicals amount to about 24 cents a bushel. At this rate, in selling 10 bushels of wheat per acre \$2.40 of your receipts would be for the cream of your soil; 20 bushels per acre would take \$4.80, 30 bushels per acre \$7.20 and 40 bushels \$9.60. Now a farmer is not farming economically, judiciously, unless he is able to return to his farm, in some form, the plant-food he sells in his crops and still have left a balance sufficient to pay all cost of crop, including interest on the value of the land. How can a step be put to the great loss through producing each year more wheat than the soil can replace? At remunerative prices? Farmers will not combine to reduce the acreage sown. Low as the price was at seeding time last autumn, the great wheat states have extended rather than contracted their areas sown. Every intelligent farmer can see the matter for himself. He can reduce to meet whatever outcome the next harvest may bring. Should there be an overproduction again, he will probably have such a large yield per acre as to reduce cost per bushel below the market price, and should there be an advance in price he will be in position to realize handsomely. To cultivate a less area and cultivate that better should be the motto of every intelligent farmer.—C. P. Reynolds, in N. Y. Tribune.

BARN FOR CATTLE.

Plans of One Large Enough to Hold Forty Cows.

A barn for holding forty cows, four horses and sufficient hay to last most of the winter is here shown. The dimensions of the barn are shown in the cut. The whole appears to be under a gable roof, the front gable end being over the entrance to the hay shed at A. It is 31 feet from the ground to the ridge pole. The hay shed is open to the roof, but over the other compartments is a roof which will hold from ten to twelve tons of hay. These lofts



STALLS FOR 40 COWS 76x124

form, as it were, broad shelves around three sides of the hay shed.

Upon the stable side of the main entrance the eaves come down to within 6 or 8 feet of the ground, while on the other side, owing to the sloping nature of the ground, the height of the outer wall to the eaves is over 10 feet. As the barn is built somewhat on a slight slope, the roof to be carried on over the 16 feet forming one end of the cow shed, otherwise the eaves would come too low over the entrance B for the cows to enter. In case it should be desired to build such a barn on level the roof over the projection of the shed could be pitched at a less incline or even a nearly flat tin roof put on.

In building such a barn one would naturally suggest some improvements on this plan. One would be an alley way in front of each row of cows for feeding them. It would also be well to have water in the stable so they need not be turned out. The boards are put on up and down and well braced with 3-inch strips of spruce, hemlock or pine. No windows are shown and no doors in the stable or implement room, which could be located to suit one's convenience.—Farm and Home.

Grass in Orchards.

Mr. Barry is entirely opposed to grass in orchards. He thinks that all orchards ought to be cultivated, except, perhaps, in some cases, say for some special reason—an orchard may make a rank growth and in consequence have been afflicted with blight; in such cases it is advisable to control this growth by seeding down and restraining the abnormal growth for the time.—Rural New Yorker.

Acres will gain in flesh if they have all the pumpkins they can consume.

DOMESTIC CONCERNS.

Pop-Overs: One egg, one cup sweet milk, one cup of flour, pinch of salt; bake same as gems in good hot oven.—Detroit Free Press.

Hot alum water is the best insect destroyer known. Put alum into hot water and boil until dissolved. Then apply this to all cracks (with a brush), closets, bedsteads and other places where insects may be found. Ants, bedbugs, cockroaches and other creeping things are killed.—Detroit Free Press.

Orange Shortcake: Make a rich crust as for strawberry shortcake by spreading one thin cake of butter, and placing another on the top of it before baking. Pare five large oranges, squeeze out the pulp and juice, discarding the pith and seeds, and sweeten to taste. Separate the layers, spread with butter, then with the prepared filling, placing a layer of the latter over the top, and on this heap sweetened whipped cream, and serve.—Boston Budget.

Clean Paint: The best soap for cleaning paint is made by taking one ounce of powdered borax, one pound of the best brown soap (cut in small pieces) and three quarts of water. Put all in a kettle; set on the back of stove or range until the soap is all dissolved, stirring frequently. It must not come to a boil. Use with a piece of old, soft, white flannel; it cleans paint without injuring it; it is also beneficial for the hands, and much better for washing clothes than any other soap.—Good House-keeping.

Cutlets of Calves Brains: Lay the brains in cold water to whiten. Put them in a stewpan with a little water, a tablespoonful of vinegar, an onion, two or three cloves, a little white wine, salt, and white pepper. Simmer the brains half an hour, then lay them on a sieve to drain. When cold cut them in slices, and dip either in egg and bread-crumbs or butter seasoned with salt and white pepper. Fry them in pure lard. Serve as a dish, or accompany to any delicate vegetable.—Harper's Bazar.

Sweet Potato Pie: Boil or bake sufficient sweet potatoes to make one pint of the pulp when rubbed through a colander; add one pint of rich cream, and one small cupful of white sugar, a pinch of salt, the yolks of two eggs beaten light and a teaspoonful of extract of lemon. Stir all well together and bake in shallow pans lined with a rich under crust only. Bake in moderate oven, and when done beat the whites of the eggs with powdered white sugar (two tablespoonfuls of each white) for the top, and brown it lightly in the oven. Eat when cold.—Ohio Farmer.

THE WRAPPER.

Some of Its Latest Concoits and Eccentricities Described.

A cosy dressing gown is of pale blue flannel, a woolen vest with a soft silk wrap, simply fastened about the waist with a cord and heavy tassels of black. Over the sleeves are full cape-embroidered in a point about the edge with black, and above this three rows of feather stitching, one above the other, and each extending up with the sleeve at the point where the scallops join together. Around the neck there is a ruffle of black and heavy tassels of black. The collar is of the same material, feather stitched in the same way, which frills a little way down the front to the girdle.

More dainty still are the pure white flannel gowns, with all the pretty stitchings done in pale blue or pink or heliotrope. Sometimes the edges of the sleeves are scalloped, and a single line of feather stitching follows the outline of the scallop one or two inches above the edge. In the space between, French knots are dotted or tiny flower sprays worked at intervals. Or the scallop may be omitted for a band of Russian needlework, which is simply a pattern in the old-fashioned embroidery that our mothers wrought on sampler and that our mothers counted out on Java canvas. And this pattern is to be done in black or a mixture of the old blues and reds, in blue, black, and pink, and really be artistic and according to the Russian idea. A very attractive and serviceable gown of this kind is made in red wool with an embroidery of black. Less elaborate, but equally cosy are the bath robes of elder down wool simply bound with ribbon, which may be made to do duty as a dressing gown to lounge in. These are simple straight princess garments, with little attempt at style or fit. They are cut much on the line of a gentleman's dressing gown, double breasted, and with large loose sleeves, and are fastened about the waist with a cord or girdle of worsted galon.—N. Y. Sun.

The Blouse Bodice for Winter.

The blouse bodice which during the seasons just past became such an indispensable article of the wardrobe would have been greatly missed had not the modiste happily hit upon the idea of lining silk blouses with velvet, or very thin flannel, and now another genius has produced a new variety of the ever-popular bodice in corded velvet and also in woolen corduroy. These are sufficiently warm with a surah lining to protect the delicate flannel blouse, severity is combined with other advantages. Plain velvet is never desirable; not so the corded variety, as the best qualities are silk faced and the colors in both deep and neutral shades are soft and rich in appearance.—New York Post.

The Bee's Use for His Sting.

It will be a surprise to many to learn that, after all, the most important function of the bee's sting is stinging. I have long been convinced that the bees put the finishing touch on their artistic work by the dexterous use of their stings, and during the final finishing stage of the process of honey-making the bees inject a minute portion of formic acid into the honey. This is really the poison of their sting. This formic acid gives to honey its peculiar flavor and also imparts to it its keeping qualities. The sting is really an exquisitely contrived little trowel, with which the bee finishes off and caps the cells when they are filled brimful with honey. While doing this the formic acid drops from the point of the sting, and the beautiful work is finished.—Horticultural Times.

The United States contains 70,000 lawyers.

11,000 of whom are in New York city, making the proportion there about one to every 160 of the population. France, with a population of 40,000,000, has but 6,000 lawyers, and Germany has only 7,000 out of a population of 50,000,000.

TESTED WITH A BATTERY.

How a Member of a Fishing Party Found the Stolen Plum Pudding.

Ex-District Attorney Sullivan, of San Francisco, told an Examiner reporter an amusing story the other day. "A few years ago," he said, "Dr. Livingston, one or two others and myself were camping in Lake county. We had a canned plum pudding, which we prized very highly, and a stable boy who was not bad in his way. Just as we reached Saratoga Springs the plum pudding disappeared, and we rather suspected the stable boy, but suspicion wouldn't tickle our palates or fill our stomachs. In our outfit was an electric battery, and I determined to try it as a thief detector and mechanical detective. I herded all the cooks, scullions and waiters about the place, and stood them in a row with the stable boy. Then I made a little speech, telling them of the theft of the plum pudding and asking the guilty one to confess. No one peeped, and the most important person in the company was the suspected stable boy. 'Very well,' I said, 'sternly, we have here an instrument which detects thieves as surely as a camera takes photographs. The innocent it will in no way affect, but it will cause the guilty to sweat, excruciating pain—in limbs and conscience. Doctor, apply the test.' With this Livingston stepped out with the battery. Placing the handles of the apparatus in the hands of the first man in the row, the doctor looked him in the eye a moment, but didn't turn on the current. Of course the man was not affected and declared innocent. So the doctor passed from man to man until he came to the stable boy. As soon as he laid gripped the handles Livingston pulled the machine wide open. That night we feasted on our recovered plum pudding again."

WOMAN'S GREATEST CHARM.

Man Likes Her Best When He Doesn't Know Why.

The exquisite charm of woman's charm, the thing that makes it so deliciously irresistible, is its very indefinability. It has a fascination somewhat akin to that of the mysterious and the unknown. Man experiences the perfect, exquisite happiness of the irresistible charm of woman's smile, but he does not know why and does not want to know. He who would inquire into what the charm consists would be like the preposterously prosaic individual who would analyze the delicate fairness of the rose, or who would decompose the brilliant facets of the diamond or assay the pure gold.

The supreme happiness of life, always connected with woman's influence and woman's association, is a thing for which man cannot account. He can tell why he enjoys material things—fine raiment, a good dinner or a dose of old brandy. He knows why he is delighted in the fair beauty of the landscape and the rugged grandeur of mountain and canyon, and why he is impressed with the broad, billowy ocean. He understands his enjoyment of literature and music, of the opera and the drama. He comprehends the attraction and gratification of a congenial pursuit. But the Colorado Sun says he knows not what makes the exquisite happiness of his life. He who can analyze the showers of earthly good, but not the dew of Eden; he who can give no reason for his choice of a wife except that he could not help it, makes the happy marriage.

REMARKABLE LIKENESSES.

Anecdotes Showing a Wonderful Similarity in Faces.

Prof. Galton, illustrating the strong likeness which often exists between members of the same family, reports the following facts. One lady sometimes spoke to herself in a looking-glass, thinking that he was talking to his brother. A little girl, whose mother and aunt were twins, often called her aunt "mother" and her mother "auntie," so much alike were those ladies.

On one occasion, when I returned from foreign service, says a British officer, "my father turned to me and said: 'I thought you were in London.' Thinking I was my brother yet he had not seen me for nearly forty years."

But the following anecdote is still more interesting, says the Youth's Companion. It was told to Prof. Galton by a young Englishman, who says: "I was coming home from India on leave of absence. The ship did not arrive for some days after it was due. My twin brother, Ben, had come up to receive me, and our aged mother was very nervous."

"One morning, after she had undergone several disappointments because of the ship's delay, I rushed into her room, saying: 'O mother, how are you?' Her answer was: 'No, Benjamin, it's a bad joke; you know how anxious I am for Alfred.' It was some time before I could convince my mother that I was her son Alfred, who had been away so long, and not my twin brother, Ben, playing a joke on her."

THE MARKETS.

New York, Jan. 16, 1893.

CATTLE—Native Steers..... \$ 8.00 to \$ 8.45
COTTON—Middling..... 25 1/2 to 26 1/2
WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 81 1/2 to 82 1/2
CORN—No. 2..... 34 1/2 to 35 1/2
POPK—New Mess..... 18 1/2 to 19 1/2

CATTLE—Shipping Steers..... 7 1/2 to 8 1/2
HOGS—Fair to Choice..... 12 1/2 to 13 1/2
FLOUR—Winter Patents..... 2 1/2 to 2 3/4
WHEAT—Spring Patents..... 4 1/2 to 4 3/4
CORN—No. 2..... 34 1/2 to 35 1/2
OATS—No. 2..... 21 1/2 to 22 1/2
POPK—Mess (New)..... 18 1/2 to 19 1/2

CATTLE—Shipping Steers..... 7 1/2 to 8 1/2
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Darning as a Fine Art.

Do you know that darning really is a fine art? It is not as it is usually conducted, but as it may be it is. A three-cornered tear, that worst of all breaks to repair, may be so finished that it will need the closest inspection to show where it is. All woollens are woven after a regular fashion. Find what it is by looking carefully at the cloth. Under the rent baste a piece of cloth. Take ravellings of the goods, a fine needle and darn just as the weave of the goods runs. Cut the thread each time the needle has come to the other side. Trim smoothly and press. You will be surprised at your fine work.—N. Y. Sun.

Beware of Quinments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury, as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the goods. It is taken internally. Sold in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co., Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.

It has never yet been denied by competent authorities whether scoring is vocal or instrumental music. Calling it "sheet music" doesn't settle the matter at all.—Concord Monitor.

How to Visit the World's Fair.

This is the title of an illustrated "folder" issued by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway for the benefit of all Western people who intend to visit Chicago from May to October, 1893.

It tells the cost of getting there and how to go. It tells what to see, and how to get about the grounds to eat and sleep; how to get to the Fair grounds, and it gives many other bits of information. Send your address with a two-cent stamp and ask for a "World's Fair Folder." Geo. H. Harpford, Gen'l. Pass. Agent, Chicago.

It has been very suggested that the term be changed to publicans.—Yonkers Statesman.

Travel with a Friend.

Who will protect you from those enemies—nausea, indigestion, malaria and the sickness produced by rocking on the waves, and sometimes by inland traveling over the rough beds of ill-laid railroads. Such a friend is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Ocean mariners, yachtsmen, commercial travelers and tourists everywhere testify to the protective potency of this effective safeguard, which conquers all rheumatism, nervousness and biliousness.

Yonkers man, don't be made addicted to the bottle! It is a vital fault.—Binghamton Leader.

The Most Pleasant Way.

Of preventing the grippe, colds, headaches, and fevers is to use the liquid laxative remedy, Syrup of Figs, whenever the system needs a purgative, or effective cathartic. To be benefited one must get the true remedy manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only. For sale by all druggists in 50c. and 10c. bottles.

"Is there anything I admire more than anything else on Sunday," said a wiseacre, on leaving church, to a duke on the steps, "it is a finished discourse."—Brooklyn Eagle.

I'll now proceed to draw the color line.

He said the bookkeeper when he seized his red ink pen.—Spokane.

Lady Agents Wanted.

In every locality to sell an article that is required in every family. 100 per cent. profit. Agents are now making \$10 per day and you ought to do as well. Send 25 cents for a copy of our circular. Write to J. C. Nettie Novelty Co., 133 Wabash avenue, Chicago, Ill.

"But what will we do with Thompson at our banquet? He can't do anything but tell a lot of cheastnutty old stories." "Make him postmaster, of course."—Buffalo Express.

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" are excellent for the relief of Hoarseness or Sore Throat.

They are exceedingly effective. Write to Christian Union, London, Eng.

A CYCLOPE is all that is necessary to raise a barn in the west.—Lowell Courier.



A LONG PROCESSION

of diseases start from a torpid liver and impure blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures every one of them. It prevents them, too. Take it, as you ought, when you feel the first symptoms (tongue, loss of appetite, dizziness, depression) and you'll save yourself from something serious. In building up needed flesh and strength, and to purify and enrich the blood, nothing can equal the "Discovery." It invigorates the liver and kidneys, promotes all the bodily functions, and brings back health and vigor. For Dyspepsia, "Liver Complaint," Biliousness, and all Scrofulous, Skin, and Scalp Diseases, it is the only remedy that is guaranteed to benefit or cure, in every case, or the money is refunded.

About Catarrh. No matter what you've tried and found wanting, you can be cured by Dr. Sagar's Catarrh Remedy. The proprietors of this medicine agree to cure you, or they'll pay you \$50 in cash.



YOU MUST SOW GOOD SEEDS IF YOU GOOD GARDEN.

Those who buy Speedy seeds continue to do so, they find them reliable. TRY THEM AND YOU WILL BE CONVINCED. Write for our illustrated and descriptive CATALOGUE mailed free on request. Address: PLANT SEED COMPANY, 512 and 514 N. Fourth Street, ST. LOUIS, MO.

\$50 Given Away. A \$50 Gold Watch given as a prize to the winner of the "EARNERS" Shorthand School.

THE School of the West. LACLEDE BUILDING, 408 OLIVE ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

"MOTHER'S FRIEND" is a scientifically prepared Linctant and harmless; every ingredient is of recognized value and in constant use by the medical profession. It shortens Labor, Lessens Pain, Diminishes Danger to Life of Mother and Child. Book "To Mothers" mailed free, containing valuable information and voluntary testimonials.

Sent by express, charges prepaid, on receipt of price, \$1.50 per bottle.

WOMAN'S FRIEND, Catarrh, Opioid.

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Royal Baking Powder.

THE GOVERNMENT TESTS ESTABLISH ITS ABSOLUTE SUPERIORITY.

(Data from the latest Official U. S. Government Report on Baking Powders, Department of Agriculture, Bulletin 13, page 599.)

Royal is placed first of the cream of tartar powders, actual strength, 160.6 cubic inches of leavening gas per ounce of powder.

Every other powder tested exhibited a much lower strength than the Royal, the average being 33 per cent. less.

Every other powder likewise showed the presence of alum or sulphuric acid.

The claim that this report shows any other powder of superior strength or purity has been denounced as a falsehood by the Government officers who made the tests.

Avoid all baking powders sold with a gift or prize, or at a lower price than the Royal, as they invariably contain alum, lime or sulphuric acid, and render the food unwholesome.

Charles Dickens was extremely fond of amateur theatricals.

A recently discovered letter of his contains the following lines, which are most characteristic of the author of the Pickwick: "I am terribly out of spirits this morning, owing to the great difficulty I and the stage carpenter experience in making moonlight, which is a much more troublesome task than we anticipated." There is something very ludicrous in the idea of employing a carpenter to make moonlight.

New Route to Florida.

Louisville & St. Louis Air Line, in connection with the Queen & Crescent, has formed a new through line from St. Louis to Florida, via Louisville